

These fossils have long been known to collectors, and are figured by Martin (*Petrif. Derbiens.*), Parkinson (*Org. Rem. Vol. I. Pl. IX.*), and others. They are cylindrical imbricated bodies, rounded at both extremities, from two to six or seven inches long, and one to two inches in circumference. If broken, a cylindrical cavity is exposed, which is sometimes hollow, but frequently filled with mineral matter; and when specimens are found imbedded in the rock, the cone is fringed with linear or lanceolate leaves, as in *Lign. 31, fig. 3.* These cones often form the nuclei of ironstone nodules, like the fronds of ferns, and the leaves are then frequently replaced either by a white hydrate of alumine, or by the mineral called galena, or sulphuret of lead; and the receptacle is often filled with the same substances. This is generally the case in the specimens from Coalbrook Dale, many of which possess great brilliancy, and are exceedingly interesting as examples of the electro-chemical changes, which these fruits of the carboniferous forests have undergone.*

The figures in *Lign. 31*, show the appearance and structure of these fruits. The young specimen, fig. 3, terminates what appears to be a branch of Lepido-

* These mineralized cones are not liable to decompose, like the pyritous fruits from the Isle of Sheppey; they require no preparation for the cabinet; but it should be known that washing injures their lustre.